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ous and he appears decidedly helpless in the face of contradictory statements. At times, inaccuracy could have been avoided only through a knowledge of the sources, but for the most part an acquaintance with the best monographs or even a more careful study of Loménie or Stern would have saved Mr. Warwick many a fall. Such extreme blundering as that found on page 107, where it is stated that the *Compte Rendu* of Necker "showed an enormous deficit," followed by the observation on the next page that "this showing was made by Necker to induce capital to take the loans of the state," is exceptional, but there are many other inaccuracies quite as inexcusable.

The constructive portion is no more successful than the critical. In the first place, there is too much polemic, too much of personal impressions and feelings and too little history. The historian is supposed to tell us "Wie es eigentlich gewesen," and when he gets so heated as to exclaim—on paper—"The wretched liar," speaking of the Duc d'Orleans, or to refer to the Marquis de Mirabeau familiarly as "this old ruffian" or the "conceited old pedant," the thought arises that such a writer might not be a safe interpreter of the evidence. In the second place, the volume lacks proportion and unity. It deals with "Mirabeau and the French Revolution," that is, with the influence of Mirabeau on the Revolution and of the Revolution on Mirabeau, not with "Mirabeau and with the French Revolution." There is, however, so at least it seems to me, too much of this last conception of the subject in Mr. Warwick's book. One hundred and twenty-four pages out of a total of four hundred and sixty-seven certainly form an excessive number to allot to the ancient régime before introducing Mirabeau. The matter is interesting enough, but there is too much of it that has no direct bearing on the subject. Then again the synthesis of the Revolution is not well thought out, there is no large grasp of the subject, there is lack of continuity and at times failure to understand the meaning of the facts, while in the biography of Mirabeau some very important periods—that from 1783 to 1787, for example—barely receive a passing notice.

The illustrations of the volume—with a few exceptions—have no historic value and some of them verge on the ridiculous (see pp. 122 and 342). The facsimile of a document (p. 438), supposed to be in the handwriting of Mirabeau, is, with the exception of the signature, the work of a copyist.

FRED MORROW FLING.

Le Grand-Duché de Berg (1806–1813). Étude sur la Domination Française en Allemagne sous Napoléon Ier. Par CHARLES SCHMIDT, Docteur ès Lettres, Archiviste aux Archives Nationales. (Paris: Félix Alcan. 1905. Pp. xvi, 528.)

THE three states which Napoleon created in Germany and which disappeared with him, Berg, Westphalia, and Frankfort, have now received adequate, scientific treatment. Thimme's *Das Kurfürstenthum Hann-*

over and Darmstaedter's *Das Grossherzogthum Frankfurt* are recent evidences of the interest German scholars are taking in the "French period" of their history. But the third state has never hitherto been sufficiently investigated. Rambaud and Denis have treated its history in a very limited manner. Fisher in his *Napoleonic Statesmanship* has given fifty pages to it, admittedly based upon only a partial examination of the sources. The need of a thorough investigation of this field has been completely met by Mr. Schmidt in a study, remarkable for its amplitude, its solidity, and its precision. Relegating Beugnot's *Memoirs*, written long after the event, and very impressionistic, to a subordinate position, he has built up in a masterly manner an authoritative monograph upon an important subject.

To his text he has prefixed a bibliography of the unpublished sources used, indicating the precise importance for his work of each of the various archives of Paris, Düsseldorf, Münster, Wiesbaden, and Berlin, as well as of the private archives of several French families important in connection with the history of Berg.

The method of treatment is topical, not narrative. The first two chapters are devoted to the reign of Murat, the rest to the history of the Grand Duchy as administered directly by Napoleon.

The territory out of which this petty state was created had previously belonged to fifteen different sovereigns. Much diversity of institutional life prevailed in the different parts. Mr. Schmidt describes at length and with clearness the political and social transformations effected by the French tending toward unity and toward social equality—the unity being brought about by the introduction of the French governmental machinery and by the common military service, the equality by the abolition of feudal institutions, the introduction of the Code, the French judicial system and the French ideas in regard to church and school. One gets a vivid impression from this account of the amount of time and intelligent study devoted by French administrators to the problem of pouring new wine into old bottles.

There was no hasty assertion of doctrinairism, no sudden and unintelligent imposition of Parisian novelties upon an alien people. Unhappy delays were even sometimes caused by the scrupulous care of the authorities in Paris to study questions thoroughly before reaching decisions. Moreover Germans were preferred for most of the offices in the state. Much that was introduced by the French failed to strike root, not because of its unfitness, but because of the short duration of the French rule. Yet twenty years would have been enough to acclimatize the new institutions and in 1809 Napoleon was justified in looking forward twenty years.

A large and illuminating section of this book is devoted to the economic influence of France upon Berg. Mr. Schmidt traces the evolution of the protectionist policy of France from the tariff of 1791 down to the disastrous tariff of Trianon, 1810. The deeper significance of these tariffs is shown, they being apparently inevitable measures required

by France in her painful transition from an agricultural to an industrial state of society. He shows Napoleon no free agent in his economic policy but profoundly compelled by clamorous French protectionists ever urging higher duties by arguments now sufficiently familiar. The effect of this system was ruinous to Berg, a state even at that time the most completely industrial on the Continent, a "miniature England" as it was justly called by contemporaries, the present centre of Germany's great industrial power along the Rhine. This state, absolutely dependent upon foreign markets, found them everywhere closed by Napoleon. The Bergois earnestly and persistently sought annexation to the French Empire, that thus they might share its markets. Instantly all the amenities of the struggle for existence were glaringly displayed. German manufacturers of the left bank of the Rhine protested vehemently against admitting German manufacturers of the right bank, painting the inevitable ruin that the new competition would bring upon French industries.

The gifts of the gods are mixed. The French gave enlightened political, legal and social institutions to the right bank and by a fatality which they could not master crushed this region by an economic policy that ruined rich and poor, that closed hundreds of factories and turned the high altars of churches into receptacles for the precarious commodities of smugglers. It was a strange paradox that that German state most directly controlled by France was the one that suffered most. Berg alone of all the countries of Europe drew, no benefit from the Continental System.

Mr. Schmidt's book is, in short, a model of monographic writing, a rich contribution to historical knowledge. It will henceforth be indispensable for the student of Napoleonic Germany.

There are several appendices unusually informing, a chart showing the regions composing the Grand Duchy and containing a variety of statistical data, a contemporary map, and critical notes on the memoirs of Beugnot hitherto considered so important. A similarly severe appraisal of other autobiographic values of this period would be of the highest service to historical students.

CHARLES DOWNER HAZEN.

Madame Récamier et ses Amis. Thèse présentée à la Faculté des Lettres de l'Université de Paris, par ÉDOUARD HERRIOT. (Paris: Plon, Nourrit et Cie. 1904. Two volumes, pp. lxxiv, 357, 438.)

Two difficulties confront the writer attempting to deal with the history of Madame Récamier. In the first place the very complexity of her life makes the task no easy one. As M. Herriot points out in his introduction, it may be going too far to say that Abbaye-aux-Bois was a second Versailles and that the circle there over which Madame Récamier presided holds as important a place in the literary history of France as does Port Royal in its religious history, still it is true that the